

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 15-0305V

Filed: February 2, 2017

Unpublished

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ERICH MICHAEL GRAM,

v.  
Petitioner,

SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

\* Damages Decision Based on Proffer;  
\* Trivalent Influenza ("Flu") Vaccine;  
\* Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine  
Administration ("SIRVA");  
\* Special Processing Unit ("SPU")  
\*

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*Dan W. Bolton, III, Esq., Bolton Law, PLLC, Cary, NC, for petitioner.*  
*Michael P. Milmoe, Esq., U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC for respondent.*

## DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES<sup>1</sup>

**Dorsey**, Chief Special Master:

On March 25, 2015, Erich Michael Gram ("petitioner") filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,<sup>2</sup> (the "Vaccine Act"). Petitioner alleged that he suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA") caused by the trivalent influenza vaccine he received on October 23, 2013. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit ("SPU") of the Office of Special Masters.

On August 4, 2015, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation for SIRVA. On February 1, 2017, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation ("Proffer") indicating petitioner should be awarded \$207,573.00. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.* Based on the record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all "§" references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$207,573.00 (comprised of \$160,000.00 in past and future pain and suffering, \$30,000.00 in past and future lost wages, \$13,823.00 in past unreimbursable expenses, and \$3,750.00 in future medical expenses), in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Erich Michael Gram. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.<sup>3</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Nora Beth Dorsey**

Nora Beth Dorsey  
Chief Special Master

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<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

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ERICH MICHAEL GRAM,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	No. 15-305V
	)	Chief Special Master Dorsey
v.	)	ECF
	)	
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND	)	
HUMAN SERVICES,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	

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**RESPONDENT'S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION**

**I. Compensation for Vaccine Injury-Related Items**

On August 4, 2015, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement determining that petitioner was entitled to vaccine compensation for his Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”). Respondent proffers that, based on the evidence of record, petitioner should be awarded \$207,573.00, comprised of \$160,000.00 in past and future pain and suffering, \$30,000.00 in past and future lost wages, \$13,823.00 in past unreimbursable expenses, and \$3,750.00 in future medical expenses. This amount represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

## II. Form of the Award

Respondent recommends that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment as described below, and requests that the Chief Special Master's decision and the Court's judgment award the following:<sup>1</sup>

- A. A lump sum payment of \$207,573.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Erich Michael Gram. This amount accounts for all elements of compensation under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) to which petitioner would be entitled.

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAD A. READLER  
Acting Assistant Attorney General

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Acting Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

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*/s/ Michael P. Milmoe*  
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Dated: February 1, 2017

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<sup>1</sup> Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, respondent reserves the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future pain and suffering, and future lost wages.